

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 R

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IATF - PKELLOGG

S/S-O:LMATTESON

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY SAIGON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 097855

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SREF, VS

SUBJECT:UNHCR PARTICIPATION IN INDOCHINA'S REFUGEE
RESETTLEMENT

1. AS FOLLOW UP TO HABIB CALL TO WALDHEIM, KELLOGG SAW
UNHCR IN NEW YORK YESTERDAY AFTERNOON TO URGE HIS FULL AND
IMMEDIATE PARTICIPATION IN INDOCHINESE REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT
EFFORT. HIGH COMMISSIONER SAID HE HAD DISCUSSED MATTER
AT LENGTH WITH SYG AND WAS PREPARED TO CARRY OUT FULLY THE
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MANDATE GIVEN HIM BY UN FOR REFUGEES AND WAS STUDYING HOW
BEST TO BE OF ASSISTANCE. HE WAS, HOWEVER, LESS THAN FULLY
FORTHCOMING.

2. REGARDING CAMBODIANS IN THIRD COUNTRIES, HIGH COMMISSIONER FELT THERE SHOULD BE NO PROBLEM IN PROVIDING UNHCR ASSISTANCE. HE WAS FAMILIAR WITH INDIAN PROBLEM AND AUSTRALIAN OFFER. HE IS ALSO PREPARED CONSIDER CAMBODIANS IN UTAPAO WHO DO NOT GO TO US AND IS WILLING TO ASSIST OTHER CAMBODIAN REFUGEES IN THAILAND FILTERING ACROSS BORDER.

3. HIGH COMMISSIONER APPEARED LESS SURE ABOUT VIETNAMESE BUT SAID HE HAD NO DIFFICULTY WITH THOSE FALLING CLEARLY WITHIN HIS MANDATE. DEFINITION LATTER CLASS UNCLEAR,

AND HE APPEARS TO HARBOR CONSIDERABLE MISGIVINGS ABOUT REFUGEES EVACUATED TO GUAM, ALTHOUGH KELLOGG ASSURED HIM THEIR PRESENCE THERE DID NOT MEAN THEY WERE BEING ADMITTED TO US FOR IMMIGRATION PURPOSES. HIGH COMMISSIONER FELT THAT OF THOSE TAKEN TO GUAM BY US MAXIMUM NUMBER SHOULD GO TO US BUT SAID HE WOULD TRY TO TAKE CARE OF THOSE WHO COULD NOT GO TO US AND THOSE LOCATED OUTSIDE GUAM.

4. HIGH COMMISSIONER SAID HE WOULD TAKE UP QUESTION OF APPROACHING THIRD COUNTRIES IMMEDIATELY AND WOULD GIVE URGENT CONSIDERATION TO SENDING UNHCR REPRESENTATIVE TO GUAM. HE SAID COUNTRIES WILLING TO RECEIVE "HIGH RISK" CATEGORY VIETNAMESE REFUGEES WOULD PROBABLY WANT TO KNOW IN ADVANCE WHAT KIND OF REFUGEES THEY WERE BEING ASKED TO RESETTLE. FOR EXAMPLE PARA-MILITARY, "PHOENIX" OR INTELLIGENCE-CONNECTED PERSONNEL MAY NOT BE ACCEPTABLE.

5. HIGH COMMISSIONER LEFT NEW YORK LAST NIGHT FOR GENEVA. YOU SHOULD GET WITH HIM AS SOON AS POSSIBLE ON MONDAY, AS FOLLOW UP TO HIS NEW YORK CONVERSATIONS, STRESSING URGENCY OF SITUATION AND NEED TO MOVE FORWARD RAPIDLY TO CONTACT THIRD COUNTRIES WHO MAY BE CANDIDATES FOR RESETTLEMENT AND TO ESTABLISH NECESSARY SUPPORTING MECHANISMS PARTICULARLY UNHCR REPRESENTATIVE OR TEAM ON GUAM. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT, REFUGEE RELIEF, INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 APR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: greeneet
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE097855
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JWILSON
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750147-1053
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750412/aaaaalck.tel
Line Count: 96
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: greeneet
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23 JUN 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <30 OCT 2003 by greeneet>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NHCR PARTICIPATION IN INDOCHINA'S REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT
TAGS: SREF, VS, UNHCR
To: GENEVA
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006